#### Texas State University: Leader in Teacher Education

A presentation to the Education Committee of the Texas Senate



The rising STAR of Texas

A member of The Texas State University System

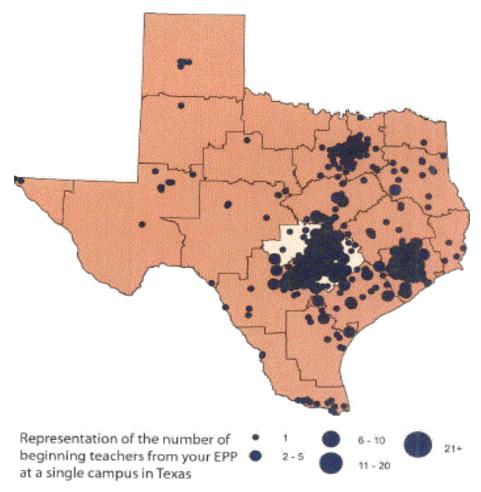
#### **Background, History and Scope**

- For almost 110 years, a central mission of Texas State is to prepare teachers
- Texas State prepares more teachers than any other University-based program in Texas: 850-1000 per year
- Our teachers are employed throughout the State, but primarily in Central Texas, Dallas-Fort Worth, and Houston
- Texas State teachers teach approximately 78,534 students during their first 3 years of teaching\*



<sup>\*</sup>Based on preliminary data from the Project on Educator Effectiveness & Quality, 2012

# Distribution of Texas State Beginning Teachers (Years 1-3)





#### Field Experience: The Hallmark of the Texas State Teacher Education Program

- Texas State teacher education candidates experience a realworld school setting beginning in their junior year
- Courses are taught at public school campuses where Texas State students spend two full days per week in classrooms
- Texas State faculty are at the school sites teaching and supervising
- Partnerships with school districts extend from New Braunfels to Round Rock (22 schools: elementary, middle, high schools)



## Innovative, Responsive Programs Targeting Public School Needs

- All EC-6 students complete ESL or Bilingual certification
- Post-graduate teacher residency provides teachers for critical shortage areas of math, science, and special education
- Undergraduate and graduate programs are available to prepare middle school math teachers in partnership with Mathematics department
- Long-standing grant funding has increased ability to prepare teachers with most of these resulting in institutionalization of these programs after funding has ended



## Partnerships Enhance Our Ability to Respond to Community Needs

Texas State College of Science

• E3 Alliance (our Regional P-16 Council)

Texas PTA



# Admittance and Recruitment: Assurance that the Best and Brightest Become Teachers

- Change of GPA entry requirement to 2.75 (Texas requires 2.5)
- Admittance requires enrollment in a freshman seminar class specifically for teacher education students or attendance at a teacher education seminar
- Teacher education candidates enter their education classes as committed students who have demonstrated their readiness for this demanding profession



#### **Multiple Pathways to Certification**

- Traditional undergraduate
- Accelerated graduate programs resulting in a master's degree along with teacher certification
- Specialized programs for 4-8 math teachers
- Specialized programs for EC-12 special education teachers
- New recruitment initiative in the works to partner with Ready, Set, Teach programs in area-wide high schools



## Evidence of Texas State Quality in the Teacher Education program

- Recent accreditation granted by the Teacher Education Accreditation Council (TEAC) acknowledging that Texas State demonstrates evidence of a quality program
- Preliminary results from State accountability measures:
  - Strong pass rate on teacher certification tests
  - Evidence of well-prepared teachers from Texas State submitted by principals on the newly adopted Principal Survey of teachers in their first through third years of teaching\*
  - Evidence from new data utilizing a value-added measure (VAM) shows Texas State teachers to make a difference in the achievement levels of the students they teach\*

